

## GENERAL NEWS

### Brief Notes of Last Week's Happenings.

Lieut-Gen. Nelson A. Miles, commanding the army, was placed on the retired list Saturday.

Philadelphia rumors are to the effect that the Shipping Trust will be dissolved in a short time.

General Miles says he is not a candidate for Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The first bale of this season's Georgia cotton was sold at Albany, for 15 cents a pound, by a negro farmer.

William Hamilton, a white farmer, was lynched at Asotin, Wash., for the brutal murder of 13-year-old Mabel Richards.

The imports of sugar into the United States during the last fiscal year exceeded 5,000,000,000 pounds and broke all records.

Of the 857,046 immigrants who arrived in the United States in the last fiscal year only 115,281 went to the States west of the Mississippi River.

Eighty stocks made new low marks on the exchange and the failures of Sharp & Bryan and Hurlbutt, Hatch & Co., of New York, were announced.

Col. W. J. Bryan denounced ex-President Cleveland as a "bnuco steerer" at Urbana, Ohio, where he had a conference with Mayor Tom L. Johnson.

Dr. Wiley, the expert of the Agricultural Department, will go to Europe to instruct American consuls about the enforcement of the Pure Food law.

Republican and Democratic politicians concur in the belief that it would be good policy for both parties to give the nomination for Vice-President to the Middle West.

### Cotton Condition is 79.7, the Ten Year Average Being 84.3.

Washington, D. C., August 5.—The monthly report of the chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Agriculture shows the average condition of cotton on July 25th to have been 79.7 as compared with 77.1 on June 25th, 1903, 81.9 on July 25th, 1902, 77.2 on July 25th, 1901, and a ten-year average of 84.3.

The following table shows the condition by States on July 25th in each of the last three years and that on June 25th, 1903, with the ten-year averages:

States.	Ten-year		
	July 25th.	June 25th.	Average.
Texas .....	82.	79.	79.
Georgia .....	77.	75.	85.
Alabama .....	79.	76.	84.
Mississippi .....	83.	81.	83.
South Carolina.	76.	74.	84.
Arkansas .....	76.	73.	84.
Louisiana .....	84.	80.	83.
North Carolina.	78.	75.	86.
Tennessee .....	82.	80.	86.
Ind. Territory ..	75.	73.	90.
Oklahoma .....	69.	67.	88.
Florida .....	85.	84.	87.
Missouri .....	78.	74.	88.
Virginia .....	76.	76.	89.
United States ..	79.7	77.1	84.3

### James McNeill Whistler.

Whistler's death removes one of the two greatest painters of whom America boasts. Like Sargent and Abbey, he was really cosmopolitan. Winslow Homer, Brush, and Twatchman are instances of artists in whom the adjective American has more than accidental meaning. Indeed, even from Whistler and Sargent we can derive the patriotic satisfaction of proving that Yankee blood is adapted to pictorial art, but in style and training they belong to the world. Whistler took what he wanted wherever he found it, in Japan, Paris, or Spain, and the result was pure Whistler. His individuality in art is as intense as his talent. Therefore hordes of young men imitate him. His high place in etching was won first, but he is safe among immortal painters also. The peculiar personal quality which at first confused people now fascinates them. The world has grown smaller. Whistler is no longer queer to our eyes, partly because Japan has become familiar. It is a question whether nationality in art will survive modern facility in communication, and whether art will flourish under uniformity. Whistler was little affected by the actual civilization about him. He lived with art and nature, and when he confronted men it was to quarrel. His writings and his witticisms have been much noticed in his lifetime. They are clever and ephemeral. To the future he will be the artist, the foremost etcher and one of the most notable painters who flourished in the last half of the nineteenth century; a worthy period in painting, that saw Puvis de Chavannes, Degas, Lembach, Watts, Sargent and Whistler active together.—Collier's Weekly.

### The Rhodes Scholarships.

The conditions under which American candidates for the Rhodes scholarships must qualify have been made known in a memorandum prepared by the trustees of the will of the famous South African. The first election of American scholars will be held between February and May, 1904, and those who are successful will begin residence at Oxford in October of that year. A committee has been selected for each State and Territory, and each committee is to make an appointment from the list of those successfully passing the qualifying examination. The latter is not competitive, but must satisfy the examiners that candidates are acceptable to enter on the course prescribed at Oxford. A list of the subjects is published. Applicants must be unmarried, and must be American citizens between nineteen and twenty-five years old. No candidate may compete in more than one State. In view of the numerous inquiries which will be made we publish a list of the authorities from whom information may be obtained. In most of the Western and Southern States the president of the State university or college is chairman of the committee of selection.—New York Outlook.

### SARTO BECOMES POPE.

**A Compromise Candidate, He Wins Out, and Chooses the Title, Pius X.—He Has Risen from the Ranks of the Poor Parish Priests, and is 68 Years Old.**

The conclave of Catholic cardinals, after being in session for four days, last Tuesday elected Guiseppe Sarto, Patriarch of Venice, as Pope to succeed Leo XIII., and he now reigns at the Vatican and over the Catholic world as Pius X. He was not a prominent candidate at first, but after Monday's ballots it was a foregone conclusion that he was the only candidate sufficiently acceptable to all to secure the necessary two-thirds which the laws of the church require. He had not been prominent in any of the several church factions, and in this lay his strength. Unlike Pope Leo, Sarto is not hostile to the Italian Government. The following paragraph from the Outlook's editorial, reprinted in last week's Progressive Farmer, is worth repeating:

"Finally, three candidates stand out more than ever as eminently and nationally Italian in their divorce from 'the prisoner of the Vatican' attitude—Cardinals Sarto, Capocciaturo, and Agliardi, men of democratic sympathies, liberal tendencies, and marked capacity for administrative work. All Protestants hope that such qualities will distinguish the next Pope—whether he be one of these prominent papabili or some obscure compromise candidate."

The following sketch of the new Pope's life and character is given by the Associated Press:

Guiseppe Sarto, now Pius X., was only twenty-three when he was consecrated a priest at Castelfranco, the birthplace of the great master, Giorgione, acting afterwards for nine years as coadjutor to the parish priest of Tombolo, province of Padua a small village of 2,950 people, who were the first to appreciate his virtues. His kindness was untiring. He sought to fill their wants and never a murmur was heard when he was called in the middle of a winter night to a death-bed which proved to be nothing of the kind. He gave freely of his very small means, until he often went without meals himself, but he kept many a poor family from starvation.

In 1867 he was appointed parish priest at Salzano, which was considered an important promotion, being a village of 3,341 souls. Still, he was exceedingly sorry to leave Tombolo, having become attached to the people. The peasants, when he left, made a most enthusiastic demonstration, crying, "Viva, don Guiseppe," while many women whose children he had nursed, wept. He distinguished himself so much at Salzano that he was only kept there two years, which is remarkable in the career of an Italian parish priest. In 1875 he was elected chancellor of the bishopric of Treviso, then spiritual director of that seminary, judge of the ecclesiastical tribunal and finally vicar general.

Pope Leo, who had highly appreciated his cleverness, piety and modesty, appointed him in November, 1884, at the age of 49 years, Bishop of Mantua, where he remained nine years, until 1893, when he was made a cardinal and appointed Patriarch of Venice. He there distinguished himself as a thorough reformer, suppressing all abuses, restoring the dignity of the clergy and the earnestness of religion. To him is due the revival of a Georgian chant in the beautiful churches overlooking the lagoons and to him is due the strict return of liturgic rules.

Sarto became the idol of the Venetians. When his gondola went through the canals the people rushed on the bridges and along the sides of the canals, kneeling and saluting, the women exclaiming, "God bless the patriarch."

In a few cases in which he came to Rome, on returning, asked if he enjoyed the gorgeousness of the Papal court and the magnificence of the functions, Sarto answered: "When I am there, I feel like a fish out of water."

He has very modest tastes, having retained almost the same habits as when he was a mere curate at Salpazo. He was severe but was just with his clergy. There is nothing he dislikes so much as publicity, detesting the praise and compliments of courtiers. Frankness is another of his personal qualities, although he is somewhat timid.

The relations of Sarto with the House of Savoy are well illustrated by what occurred two months ago, when the King of Italy went to Venice to open the international art exhibition. King Victor Emmanuel gave orders that the patriarch be given precedence over all local authorities, but Sarto having arrived while the King was speaking to the prefect, who is the highest Government official in the province, he refused to be announced and said he would not disturb His Majesty. He remained in an ante-chamber, favorably conversing with the generals and admirals gathered there. When the King learned of his presence he came to receive him on the threshold of the chamber and kept him in conversation, accompanying him afterwards in a gondola, while all the soldiers and guards rendered Sarto military honors. Naturally this does not mean that Sarto, as Pope, will fundamentally change the policy that the church has adopted towards the Italian State, but certainly his personal feeling will be favorable to moderation.

Advices from Reise, the birthplace of Pius X., and a village of 4,000 inhabitants, state that the Pope's mother, now dead, when living there occupied a small peasant's house, having in her humility always refused to live with her son Guiseppe, as even his modest establishment was considered by her to be too luxurious in comparison with what she was accustomed to. The elder brother of the Pope, Angelo, lives in the village of Dellegrazie, province of Mantua, being postman of the district, and receiving eighty dollars a year. He also adds to his income by keeping a shop in which he sells tobacco and pork. His two daughters are the belles of the village, being known for miles around as the "handsome sisters."